

Timeline: World War II

General Historical Events

Diplomatic Documents & Events

1940

Nov: Franklin Roosevelt re-elected to a third term

Oct: Japan Protests Export Ban
Unsatisfactory Relations

1941

Jan: The Four Freedoms

Feb: Lend-Lease Agreement

Aug: Atlantic Charter

Dec: Japanese launch surprise attack on Pearl Harbor

Dec: Telegram to the Japanese Embassy from Tokyo (Dec. 1)
A Situation of Extraordinary Importance
Telegram to the Japanese Embassy from Tokyo (Dec. 7)
A Sudden Meeting
The Fourteen Part Message
A Date which will Live in Infamy
The United States Declares War

1942

Feb: Internment of Japanese-Americans begins

June: Battle of Midway Island in the Pacific

Dec: First successful atomic chain reaction

1943

Jan: A Growing Rift

Sept: The Fulbright Resolution

Nov: Leaders at Tehran Conference agree to invade Europe

Dec: The Cairo Conference

1944

June: Allies launch D-Day invasion of Europe

July: US begins battle to retake Island of Guam

Nov: Franklin Roosevelt reelected to a fourth term

July: Our First Impressions are Extremely Favorable
Bretton Woods Agreement

1945

Feb: Yalta Conference
US Marines land on Iwo Jima

Apr: FDR dies

May: Germany surrenders unconditionally

Aug: US drops atomic bombs on Japan
Japan surrenders unconditionally

Mar: The Yalta Agreement [released]

Apr: The Moral Force of Justice

June: Charter of the United Nations

1946

Apr: League of Nations disbands

July: US grants independence to the Philippines

July: Constitution of the World Health Organization